

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Chairman, Environmental Matters Committee (By Request -
Departmental - Transportation)**

Requested: November 17, 2003

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2004

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - School Buses - Repeal of Special Speed Limit**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing a provision of law that establishes a special maximum
4 speed limit for school buses carrying passengers, thereby making school buses
5 carrying passengers subject to the vehicle speed limits otherwise applicable
6 under law; and generally relating to school bus speed limits.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article - Transportation
9 Section 21-801.1(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article - Transportation
14 Section 21-806
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article - Transportation**

20 21-801.1.

21 (a) Unless there is a special danger that requires a lower speed to comply with
22 § 21-801 of this subtitle, the limits specified in this section or otherwise established
23 under this subtitle are maximum lawful speeds. A person may not drive a vehicle on
24 a highway at a speed that exceeds these limits.

1 21-806.

2 [(a) A person may not drive a Type I school vehicle (school bus) at a speed of
3 more than 50 miles an hour while it is carrying any passenger.

4 (b) (1)] (A) On request of any local authority, the State Highway
5 Administration shall investigate and, on its own initiative, it may investigate any
6 bridge or other elevated structure that is a part of a highway.

7 [(2)] (B) If it determines that the structure cannot safely withstand the
8 weight of vehicles traveling at the maximum speed limit otherwise permitted by this
9 subtitle, the State Highway Administration shall:

10 [(i)] (1) Establish the maximum speed limit that the structure
11 can safely withstand; and

12 [(ii)] (2) At each approach to the structure, place or permit the
13 placement of a suitable sign stating the maximum speed limit.

14 [(3)] (C) A maximum speed limit established under this section is
15 effective when posted on appropriate signs giving notice of the limit.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
17 effect October 1, 2004.